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N° 17,096



A.D. 1908

*Date of Application, 14th Aug., 1908—Accepted, 19th Nov., 1908*

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

**Improvements in Bedsteads for Hospitals and like Institutions.**

I DONALD JAMES MACKINTOSH of Western Infirmary, Glasgow, Medical Superintendent do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

5 This invention relates to bedsteads for use in hospitals, asylums and other institutions, particularly that design of bedsteads which are provided with castors and block feet, adapted to be brought into use alternatively at will, so as to enable the bedstead to be moved readily or firmly supported in a stationary position. According to my invention I provide the end of such bedsteads having  
10 block feet with a supplementary centrally disposed leg or equivalent, the foot portion of which is fitted with a wheel or castor which can be brought into use at will, but remains inoperative when not required.

As an alternative my invention is also applicable to a bedstead end having castors on its legs, in which case I provide the lower part of the supplementary  
15 leg with a block foot, which on being brought into use, causes the castors to be lifted off the floor, and thus inoperative.

In carrying out my invention, which I will describe as applied to a bedstead end having block feet, I provide the bedstead end with suitable means for attachment of the supplementary leg or equivalent, and which suitable means  
20 preferably consists of one or more cross bars having centrally disposed sockets or bearings, through which an outer casing enclosing the supplementary leg, takes. I also pivot or attach to the inside of the said casing, a swinging hand lever, of such configuration that on being turned from right to left (or upwardly or downwardly as the case may be,) a swelled part of it comes adjacent to the  
25 top part of the supplementary leg, and after forcing the said leg downwardly within its outer casing, retains it in position, thereby causing it to take a lower plane than the block feet on the legs of the bedsteads end, and raising the said block feet from the floor. The reverse movement of the hand lever, causes the swelled part to emerge from the position it takes up on the supplementary leg  
30 being brought into use, and the weight of the bedstead causes the said leg to resume its normal and out-of-use position, it being forced upwardly within its outer casing. If necessary the lower part of the outer casing of the supplementary leg may have a downwardly disposed elongated slot, through which a stud connected to the supplementary leg, works up and down, on the said  
35 supplementary leg being brought into use or otherwise. This elongated slot and peg act as a guide for the supplementary leg.

To facilitate the working of the lever upon the top of the supplementary leg, I may provide the top of the leg with a revolving disc, or equivalent, which  
40 readily revolves on contact with the lever on the supplementary leg being brought into or out of use.

Fig: 1 of the accompanying drawing, shows a supplementary leg and its outer casing (partly in section) constructed according to my invention. The hand lever is shown with its narrow portion against the top of the revolving disc affixed to the upper portion of the supplementary leg proper.

45 Fig: 2 shows my invention fitted to a bedstead end, and with the supplementary leg proper in use, whilst Figure 3 shows it fitted to a bedstead end with the supplementary leg proper out of use.

[Price 8d.]

*Improvements in Bedsteads for Hospitals and like Institutions.*

The several letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawing.

A is the supplementary leg proper, having an outer casing B, castor C, and hand lever D, the latter of which is provided with handle D<sup>1</sup>, swelled part E and narrow part F. This lever is pivoted at G, and engages on the top H of the leg proper, (or revolving disc attached to the leg proper, as an alternative), whilst its bearing parts E and F respectively, work within opposite slots L in the outer casing; M is a stud which is attached to the supplementary leg proper, and takes within the elongated slot N, working up and down on the leg being brought into or out of use. O is a bedstead end, and P chilled junctions or equivalents, by means of which the outer casing B and with it the supplementary leg proper A, are connected to the said bedstead end.

I wish it to be understood that various methods and arrangements may be designed for attaching the supplementary leg to the ends of bedsteads.

When the supplementary leg constructed according to my invention has to be applied to a bedstead end having castors on its legs, the bottom of the supplementary leg proper is provided with a block or stump foot instead of a castor, and thus on the supplementary leg proper being brought into use it will have the effect of rendering the castors inoperative.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

The combination with a bedstead end, of a supplementary leg, consisting of an outer casing B, leg proper A, and lever D, having a handle D<sup>1</sup>, swelled part E and narrow part F, and which swelled and narrow parts of the said lever D engage alternately upon the top H of the leg proper A (or the revolving disc on top of leg proper) on the leg proper being brought into or out of use, and which said supplementary leg may be attached to a bedstead end by any suitable method or combination of parts, substantially as and for the purpose described and set forth.

Dated this Thirteenth day of August 1908.

DONALD JAMES MACKINTOSH,  
Applicant.

[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

